

Juan A. Portillo

NAME
H-80425

PRISON NUMBER

Centinela State Prison

CURRENT ADDRESS OR PLACE OF CONFINEMENT

P.O. Box 931 - D3-119L

Imperial, California 92251-0931

CITY, STATE, ZIP CODE

2254	1983
FILING FEE PAID	
Yes	No
HFP MOTION FILED	
Yes	No
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CLERK, U.S. DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA BY <i>[Signature]</i> DEPUTY

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

JUAN PORTILLO

(FULL NAME OF PETITIONER)

PETITIONER

v.

VICTOR M. ALMAGER, Warden(NAME OF WARDEN, SUPERINTENDENT, JAILOR, OR AUTHORIZED
PERSON HAVING CUSTODY OF PETITIONER [E.G., DIRECTOR OF THE
CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS])

RESPONDENT

and

The Attorney General of the State of
California, Additional Respondent.

'08 CV 0706 LAB JMA

Civil No.

(TO BE FILLED IN BY CLERK OF U.S. DISTRICT COURT)

PETITION FOR WRIT OF HABEAS CORPUS

UNDER 28 U.S.C. § 2254
BY A PERSON IN STATE CUSTODY

1. Name and location of the court that entered the judgment of conviction under attack: Superior Court of California, Los Angeles County
2. Date of judgment of conviction: May 14, 1993
3. Trial court case number of the judgment of conviction being challenged: VA023876
4. Length of sentence: Life

5. Sentence start date and projected release date: Start date: June 28, 1993; Projected release date: Currently unknown
6. Offense(s) for which you were convicted or pleaded guilty (all counts): Attempted Murder
///
///
7. What was your plea? (CHECK ONE)
 (a) Not guilty ☒
 (b) Guilty ☐
 (c) Nolo contendere ☐
8. If you pleaded not guilty, what kind of trial did you have? (CHECK ONE)
 (a) Jury ☒
 (b) Judge only ☐
9. Did you testify at the trial?
☐ Yes ☐ No

DIRECT APPEAL

10. Did you appeal from the judgment of conviction in the California Court of Appeal?
☐ Yes ☒ No
11. If you appealed in the California Court of Appeal, answer the following:
 (a) Result: _____
 (b) Date of result, case number and citation, if known: _____

 (c) Grounds raised on direct appeal: _____

12. If you sought further direct review of the decision on appeal by the California Supreme Court (e.g., a Petition for Review), please answer the following:
 (a) Result: _____
 (b) Date of result, case number and citation, if known: _____

 (c) Grounds raised: _____

13. If you filed a petition for certiorari in the United States Supreme Court, please answer the following with respect to that petition:

- (a) Result: _____
- (b) Date of result, case number and citation, if known: _____
- (c) Grounds raised: _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

COLLATERAL REVIEW IN STATE COURT

14. Other than a direct appeal from the judgment of conviction and sentence, have you previously filed any petitions, applications, or motions (e.g., a Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus) with respect to this judgment in the California Superior Court?
☒ Yes ☐ No

15. If your answer to #14 was "Yes," give the following information:

- (a) California Superior Court Case Number: VA023876
- (b) Nature of proceeding: Habeas Corpus Petition
 ///
- (c) Grounds raised: The Board Of Parole Hearings Violated Petitioner's Due Process Right, Because Its Decision Failed To Reflect Consideration Of Petitioner's Institutional Behavior As A Circumstance Tending To Demonstrate His Suitability For Parole
- (d) Did you receive an evidentiary hearing on your petition, application or motion?
☐ Yes ☒ No
- (e) Result: Petition Denied
- (f) Date of result: August 3, 2007

16. Other than a direct appeal from the judgment of conviction and sentence, have you previously filed any petitions, applications, or motions (e.g., a Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus) with respect to this judgment in the California Court of Appeal?
☒ Yes ☐ No

17. If your answer to #16 was "Yes," give the following information:

- (a) **California Court of Appeal** Case Number: BA201335
- (b) Nature of proceeding: Habeas Corpus Petition
 ///
- (c) Grounds raised: The Board Of Parole Hearings Violated Petitioner's Due Process Right, Because Its Decision Failed To Reflect Consideration Of Petitioner's Institutional Behavior As A Circumstance Tending To Demonstrate His Suitability For Parole
- (d) Did you receive an evidentiary hearing on your petition, application or motion?
☐ Yes ☒ No
- (e) Result: Petition Denied
- (f) Date of result: August 22, 2007

18. Other than a direct appeal from the judgment of conviction and sentence, have you previously filed any petitions, applications, or motions (e.g., a Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus) with respect to this judgment in the **California Supreme Court**?
☒ Yes ☐ No

19. If your answer to #18 was "Yes," give the following information:

- (a) **California Supreme Court** Case Number: S156142
- (b) Nature of proceeding: Habeas Corpus Petition
 ///
- (c) Grounds raised: The Board Of Parole Hearings Violated Petitioner's Due Process Right, Because Its Decision Failed To Reflect Consideration Of Petitioner's Institutional Behavior As A Circumstance Tending To Demonstrate His Suitability For Parole
 ///
- (d) Did you receive an evidentiary hearing on your petition, application or motion?
☐ Yes ☒ No
- (e) Result: Petition Denied
- (f) Date of result: February 27, 2008

20. If you did *not* file a petition, application or motion (e.g., a Petition for Review or a Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus) with the California Supreme Court containing the grounds raised in this federal Petition, explain briefly why you did not:

Not Applicable

COLLATERAL REVIEW IN FEDERAL COURT

21. Is this your **first** federal petition for writ of habeas corpus challenging this conviction?
- ☒ Yes ☐ No (If "YES" SKIP TO #22)
- (a) If no, in what federal court was the prior action filed? _____
- (i) What was the prior case number? _____
- (ii) Was the prior action (CHECK ONE):
- ☐ Denied on the merits?
- ☐ Dismissed for procedural reasons?
- (iii) Date of decision: _____
- (b) Were any of the issues in this current petition also raised in the prior federal petition?
- ☐ Yes ☐ No
- (c) If the prior case was denied on the merits, has the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals given you permission to file this second or successive petition?
- ☐ Yes ☐ No

CAUTION:

- **Exhaustion of State Court Remedies:** In order to proceed in federal court you must ordinarily first exhaust your state court remedies as to each ground on which you request action by the federal court. This means that even if you have exhausted some grounds by raising them before the California Supreme Court, you must first present *all* other grounds to the California Supreme Court before raising them in your federal Petition.
- **Single Petition:** If you fail to set forth all grounds in this Petition challenging a specific judgment, you may be barred from presenting additional grounds challenging the same judgment at a later date.
- **Factual Specificity:** You must state facts, not conclusions, in support of your grounds. For example, if you are claiming incompetence of counsel you must state facts specifically setting forth what your attorney did or failed to do. A rule of thumb to follow is — state who did exactly what to violate your federal constitutional rights at what time or place.

GROUND FOR RELIEF

22. State *concisely* every ground on which you claim that you are being held in violation of the constitution, law or treaties of the United States. Summarize *briefly* the facts supporting each ground. If necessary, you may attach pages stating additional grounds and/or facts supporting each ground.

(a) **GROUND ONE:** THE BOARD OF PAROLE HEARINGS VIOLATED PETITIONER'S DUE PROCESS RIGHT, BECAUSE ITS DECISION FAILED TO REFLECT CONSIDERATION OF PETITIONER'S INSTITUTIONAL BEHAVIOR AS A CIRCUMSTANCE TENDING TO DEMONSTRATE HIS SUITABILITY FOR PAROLE

Supporting FACTS (state *briefly* without citing cases or law) Petitioner contends that the Board of Parole Hearings (hereinafter "BPH") abused its discretion in that, the BPH clearly appears to find Petitioner unsuitable for parole based solely on his commitment offense. On that basis, the BPH found that Petitioner would pose an unreasonable risk of danger to society or a threat to public safety if released from prison. Moreover, the BPH characterized his commitment offense as having been carried out in a "calculated manner."
(Exhibit A).

In the psychological evaluation conducted by Dr. Nancy Petasa on June 22, 2003, the evaluation is supportive of release in that she states, "it appears that your level of dangerousness is low at this time." Clearly, the BPH ignored this evidence of Petitioner's rehabilitation, and continued to rely on the unchanging factors of his commitment offense.

The BPH is the administrative agency authorized to grant parole and fix release dates. The BPH exercises wide discretion in fixing an inmate's term and setting his parole date. The BPH enjoys broad but [not] absolute discretion in parole-related matters.

Petitioner contends that the BPH abused its discretion when it arbitrarily denied parole suitability. The BPH's conclusion that Petitioner was dangerous if released into society, clearly conflicts with Dr. Petsas' report. To begin, Dr. Petsas reported that Petitioner made poor choices in

Did you raise GROUND ONE in the California Supreme Court?

☐ Yes ☒ No.

[CONTINUED ON PAGE -6(A)-]

life. She also stated, "... he feels remorseful and thanks [sic] God that no one lost a life." She further stated, "Mr. Portillo's understanding and insight. He understands how his action can impact himself and pthers." (Exhibit B). Contrary to the BPH's findings, this stands to demonstrate that Petitioner has grown to have remarkable insight by attending numerous self-help groups designed to assist him in gaining insight into the participation in the commitment offense.

The BPH next appears to express its concern regarding Petitioner attempting to mislead the panel about his involvement in the commitment offense. (Exhibit A). This could not be further from the truth. Beginning with his initial Board Hearing in 2001, Petitioner has consistently denied firing the gun. (Exhibit C).

Petitioner contends that now that he has obtained proof that he did not shoot the gun at the security guards (Exhibit D), the BPH has refused entertain the exculpatory evidence. (Exhibit E). This action taken by the BPH is clearly contrary to the Due Process Caluse of the Fourteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution.

For the foregoing reasons, Petitioner respectfully requests this Honorable Court grant him relief.

* * * * *

(b) **GROUND TWO:** _____ Not Applicable

Supporting FACTS (state *briefly* without citing cases or law): _____

Did you raise **GROUND TWO** in the California Supreme Court?
☐ Yes ☐ No.

(c) **GROUND THREE:**

Not Applicable

Supporting FACTS (state *briefly* without citing cases or law):

Did you raise GROUND THREE in the California Supreme Court?

☐ Yes ☐ No.

(d) **GROUND FOUR:** _____ Not Applicable

Supporting FACTS (state *briefly* without citing cases or law): _____

Did you raise GROUND FOUR in the California Supreme Court?

☐ Yes ☐ No.

23. Do you have any petition or appeal **now pending** in any court, either state or federal, pertaining to the judgment under attack?

☐ Yes ☒ No

24. If your answer to #23 is "Yes," give the following information:

(a) Name of Court: _____

(b) Case Number: _____

(c) Date action filed: _____

(d) Nature of proceeding: _____

(e) Grounds raised: _____

(f) Did you receive an evidentiary hearing on your petition, application or motion?

☐ Yes ☐ No

25. Give the name and address, if known, of each attorney who represented you in the following stages of the judgment attacked herein:

(a) At preliminary hearing: _____ Not Applicable

(b) At arraignment and plea: _____ Not Applicable

(c) At trial: _____ Not Applicable

(d) At sentencing: _____ Not Applicable

(e) On appeal: _____ Not Applicable

(f) In any post-conviction proceeding: _____ Not Applicable

(g) On appeal from any adverse ruling in a post-conviction proceeding: Not Applicable

26. Were you sentenced on more than one count of an indictment, or on more than one indictment, in the same court and at the same time?
☐ Yes ☒ No

27. Do you have any future sentence to serve after you complete the sentence imposed by the judgment under attack?
☐ Yes ☒ No

(a) If so, give name and location of court that imposed sentence to be served in the future:

(b) Give date and length of the future sentence:

(c) Have you filed, or do you contemplate filing, any petition attacking the judgment which imposed the sentence to be served in the future?
☐ Yes ☐ No

28. Date you are mailing (or handing to a correctional officer) this Petition to this court:

Wherefore, Petitioner prays that the Court grant Petitioner relief to which he may be entitled in this proceeding.

Not Applicable

SIGNATURE OF ATTORNEY (IF ANY)

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed on

4/1/08

(DATE)



SIGNATURE OF PETITIONER

EXHIBIT A

CALIFORNIA BOARD OF PAROLE HEARINGS

D E C I S I O N

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER MUGA: Okay. We're back on the record.

PRESIDING COMMISSIONER BIGGERS: Okay. Let the record reflect that everyone that was in the room prior to us going into deliberations are now back in the room. Before I give the decision, Mr. Portillo, there's something that I need to pass onto you. In your last hearing in 2005, you were told certain things, and one of them was you need to reconsider your involvement in the crime and based on what was in the record, and yet you came back today with a slightly different version, and that's creating a problem for you, sir, because you're doing a lot of things. Now, you have gone on the record and given different versions from the time that you were arrested to the time that you've been here to the time that you have now, and you have been convicted of this crime. And regardless of what you're saying and the way, and I don't know if it's because you don't understand some of the questions that I even I was asking or what the District Attorney was asking, before your next hearing, I'm going to recommend that they have an interpreter in here that can explain things to you a little bit better because the way you're coming across, it's like

1 whenever a certain question is asked about the crime,
2 you have a tendency to not to want to talk about it.
3 You start kind of moving in different directions, and
4 that's hurting you, sir, to be honest with you. That's
5 really creating a problem like you are still minimizing
6 your involvement with the crime, and I will cover that
7 a little later on as we go through.

8 **DEPUTY COMMISSIONER MUGA:** Can I ask the
9 District Attorney to turn off his mic, please?

10 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER BIGGERS:** Okay. Thank
11 you.

12 **DEPUTY COMMISSIONER MUGA:** Thank you.

13 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER BIGGERS:** Now, in the
14 matter of Mr. Juan Portillo, CDC number H-80425, the
15 Panel has reviewed all information received from the
16 public and relied on the following circumstances to
17 conclude that the prisoner is not suitable for parole
18 and would pose an unreasonable risk of danger to
19 society or a threat to public safety if released from
20 prison. It's going to be another one-year denial, sir.
21 And, again, the factors that we looked at, this offense
22 was carried out in a calculated manner and was a result
23 of the fact that you and your codefendants were tossed
24 out of a bar after an altercation. You left the bar
25 with your codefendants -- I'm sorry, let me back up.
26 There was a fight in the bar. You and your co-

EXHIBIT B

1 the doctor gives you a GAF or a Global Assessment of
2 Functioning of 80. That's on a scale from zero to 100,
3 100 being the best. So 80 is a really relatively high
4 school. The doctor thought you were functioning pretty
5 high. Okay. Now, I'm just going to kind of read some
6 excerpts from the doctor's report. I'm looking at the
7 last page under the review of life crime. The doctor
8 writes:

9 "He had been drinking heavily since 10:00
10 a.m., and admits his memory may have been
11 quote not that good unquote. He
12 continues to deny firing the gun, but at
13 the same time, he feels remorseful and
14 thanks God that no one lost a life. He
15 admits not acting responsibly and is
16 sorry for all the pain he has caused
17 others. Quote 'I will never use any
18 substances again. My mind is for doing
19 good things with my life and not hurt my
20 neighbor or take a life. I have
21 continued my program in AA slash NA, and
22 I will help others when they need me,'
23 close quote."

24 The next paragraph, assessment of
25 dangerousness, the doctor writes:

26 "His ability to refrain from disciplinary
27 conduct while in prison is indicative of

1 Mr. Portillo's understanding and insight.
2 He understands how his actions can impact
3 himself and others. His genuine interest
4 in having a clean life, free of crime,
5 with family and the desire to be
6 positive. Appears that his level of
7 dangerousness is low at this time."

8 In the last paragraph, the doctor writes, under
9 clinical observation, comments, and recommendations:

10 "Mr. Portillo admits to alcoholic
11 dependence and has made every effort by
12 continuing to partake in AA slash NA.
13 All is documented in his file. He has
14 acquired computer skills and has a good
15 command of the English language. If
16 granted a release, he needs to continue
17 in a outpatient drug rehabilitation
18 program. He also needs to continue his
19 education. Even though he has many
20 goals, one remains constant. Quote 'I
21 want to contribute and to learn to be a
22 better person. I want to see my children
23 again.' Close quote. His ability to
24 maintain sobriety is the best predictor
25 of the living successfully in a
26 non-violent way in our society."
27 And those would be the highlights that I

EXHIBIT C

11

1 instructed the prisoner -- whenever I'm
2 talking, please don't interrupt me until I
3 finish the question, while you're talking.

4 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER ANGELE:** Okay,
5 thank you. And they drove off.

6 **INTERPRETER GARCIA:** Toyota -- a white
7 Toyota, did you say?

8 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER ANGELE:** A
9 white, two door, Toyota.

10 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER ANGELE:** The
11 inmate's companion, Hernandez, drove the
12 vehicle. Inmate was in the front passenger
13 seat and the inmate's companion, (inaudible) --
14 or Ruiz --

15 **INTERPRETER GARCIA:** And who,
16 (inaudible)?

17 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER ANGELE:** And
18 Ruiz, was in the backseat. About 20 minutes
19 later, Pareves and Briseno saw the white Toyota
20 coming down the alley behind the bar. The
21 automobile stopped and the inmate got out. He
22 took a **shotgun** from the automobile and began
23 shooting at Pareves and Briseno. The first
24 shot hit a truck about a foot from Briseno and
25 he felt the breeze from the **bullet** as it passed
26 by him. Pareves pushed Briseno under the truck
27 and dropped to the ground. Portillo fired

12

1 several shots and Pareves drew a revolver and
2 fired one shot in return. The inmate then got
3 back into the Toyota and the three drove away.
4 Half a block from the bar, the Los Angeles
5 County Deputy Sheriff's, Manuel Avina, A-V-I-N-
6 A, and Gabriel Graves, G-R-A-V-E-S --

7 **ATTORNEY STANTON:** I think it's Avina.

8 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER ANGELE:** I said
9 Avina, A-V-I-N-A.

10 **INTERPRETER GARCIA:** Avina?

11 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER ANGELE:** A-V-I-
12 N-A. They saw the Toyota coming towards them
13 with a shotgun barrel sticking up between the
14 driver's and passenger's seats. Deputies
15 stopped the automobile and the inmate and his
16 crime partner were taken into custody.

17 **INTERPRETER GARCIA:** What was the last
18 statement?

19 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER ANGELE:** Taken
20 into custody. And that ends the Statement of
21 Fact. The inmate -- the inmate's version, when
22 he was interrogated, he said he had been
23 involved in a fight at the bar and the security
24 guards had escorted him out. He told his
25 associates to drive him to the alley behind the
26 bar. When he saw the two security guards, he
27 pointed a shotgun out the window and shot at

13

1 them four or five times. Once at the Sheriff's
2 station, the inmate reiterated his statement,
3 that he had been sprayed with mace and escorted
4 from the bar. That they had gone to a -- to a
5 home, to retrieve a shotgun. They went back to
6 the bar. Inmate first said that he fired the
7 gun into the air but then admitted firing it at
8 the security guards, stating that he did not
9 intend to kill them. That ends the reading of
10 the Statement of Fact, on the inmate's initial
11 statement. Mr. Portillo, is that what happened
12 that night?

13 INMATE PORTILLO (THROUGH INTERPRETER

14 GARCIA): I can say something?

15 PRESIDING COMMISSIONER ANGELE: Well,

16 I'd prefer that he just answer the questions.

17 Didn't you fire the -- fire the shotgun at the
18 security guards?

19 INMATE PORTILLO (THROUGH INTERPRETER

20 GARCIA): No.

21 PRESIDING COMMISSIONER ANGELE: Why did

22 you tell the officers the night of the arrest

23 that he did?

24 INMATE PORTILLO (THROUGH INTERPRETER

25 GARCIA): I did not say that to the officer.

26 PRESIDING COMMISSIONER ANGELE: Are you

27 telling me that four officers lied about what

14

1 you said?

2 INMATE PORTILLO (THROUGH INTERPRETER
3 GARCIA): The only thing I can state is that I
4 did not say that to the officer.

5 PRESIDING COMMISSIONER ANGELE: Okay.
6 So you deny the crime?

7 INMATE PORTILLO (THROUGH INTERPRETER
8 GARCIA): No. No, I do not deny the crime.

9 PRESIDING COMMISSIONER ANGELE: You
10 deny firing the weapon?

11 INMATE PORTILLO (THROUGH INTERPRETER
12 GARCIA): I do not deny that the firearm was
13 there in the car.

14 PRESIDING COMMISSIONER ANGELE: My
15 question was, do you deny that you fired the
16 weapon?

17 INMATE PORTILLO (THROUGH INTERPRETER
18 GARCIA): Yes.

19 PRESIDING COMMISSIONER ANGELE: Were
20 you there?

21 INMATE PORTILLO (THROUGH INTERPRETER
22 GARCIA): Yes. Yes, I was in the backseat.

23 PRESIDING COMMISSIONER ANGELE: Who
24 fired the weapon?

25 INMATE PORTILLO (THROUGH INTERPRETER
26 GARCIA): I had been sprayed with gas and I was
27 not able to see as to who was (inaudible).

15

1 PRESIDING COMMISSIONER ANGELE: Where
2 did the shotgun come from?

3 INMATE PORTILLO (THROUGH INTERPRETER
4 GARCIA): By what I understand or what I know,
5 is that that firearm was right there in the
6 vehicle.

7 PRESIDING COMMISSIONER ANGELE: Is it a
8 true statement that you went to somebody's
9 house to get the shotgun?

10 INMATE PORTILLO (THROUGH INTERPRETER
11 GARCIA): No.

12 PRESIDING COMMISSIONER ANGELE: The
13 report indicates that you have no prior arrest
14 record.

15 INTERPRETER GARCIA: What was that?

16 PRESIDING COMMISSIONER ANGELE: No
17 prior arrest record, either as an adult or a
18 juvenile. Correct?

19 INMATE PORTILLO (THROUGH INTERPRETER
20 GARCIA): That's correct.

21 PRESIDING COMMISSIONER ANGELE: You
22 were born on September 17th, 1971 in El
23 Salvador.

24 INMATE PORTILLO (THROUGH INTERPRETER
25 GARCIA): Yes.

26 PRESIDING COMMISSIONER ANGELE: The
27 seventh of eight children.

EXHIBIT D

EX D

To : Juan A. Portillo, H-80425. Alias Lino.

June 17, 06

Hello Lino, I greet you with all my love as always, wishing you find yourself enjoying good health, since I find myself well, thank God, and the truth, it please me to hear from you. Believe me, that many times I tried to get a hold of you, but I had no luck. I wrote you to the old address of your sister, and no one answered me. Also, I wrote Tano, but he did not answer either, but what matters is that you are doing well, and that makes me feel good. Well, let me tell you that Mario got out in May of the last year check it out, he got to my head. He talked a lot and I did not pay attention to what he said. The truth is that he made like water and he put us in the wrong. I already talked to my Counselor of this prison, and I told him that you were not the one who shot, and he was the one, the guys they let go, but he told me that now they cannot bring him back. Believe me, that I am very upset at him. He got us into this problem and then, we follow him in not taking the 4 and 5 years that they were offering us. Now, we only have to prove to the Board that they were mistaken in letting Mario leave, and, I would like if you have the proof of the fingerprint on the trigger, it would please me if you send it to me, because that kind of proof they cannot deny you, because check this out hat I just got back from going to the Board and they told me a lot of things that I did not understand, until they told me that Mario had said all these things, and I did not accept what Mario had said, that was so much confusion with the Board, that we did not come into agreement, so they had to postpone because of what Mario had said. But, I thank you have an opportunity to even sue the Government, because they are accusing you of something that has put your life in danger, and it's not true, the accusation. I hope that you are not with your arms crossed. I hope you have in your hands the proof of the trigger, and if you have any questions for me, just write me, and I will answer them quickly and also, let me tell you that I have contact with the Honduran girl who was with me the night that this problem occurred. Do you remember her? Well, her name is Patty and figures that he Board didn't want to accept her as a witness. She is willing to help me, but they do not want to accept her. And, also let me tell you that I contacted Delmar to see if he could get a hold of any of the many videos that they took of us, but never told me nothing about the videos and he has not written back. He lives in Dallas, Texas, and also, do you know what happen, who it was, who went to the apartment a took all the things out of it. I only want to recover the many pictures I had, over 250 photos. Two times from a teenage chamberlain and one from a

wedding. I think that you may remember all those pictures, that's the only thing I want to get back, and also let me tell you that not long ago 2 individuals took the life of both my parents, the truth is that news was killing me but thank God I am recovering. I believe I have lost everything, but life goes on. Hear from you. and I wish to know that you are doing good health care, and also psychologically. I am at Avenal in yard 5. Let me know where I can find you. Maybe I can ask for a transfer wherever you are, because they will get us out here. Well buddy. I hope that you take good care of yourself, and that God continue to protect you wherever you are. My God bless you.

Sincerely your friend.

Mauro Hernandez

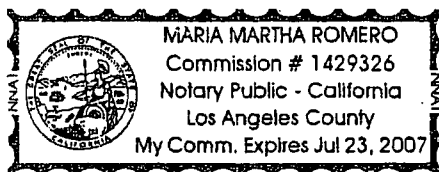
STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES)

I, Maria Martha Romero, Notary Public of California do hereby certify that this is a true translation from the attached document dated June 17, 06, to the best of my knowledge, ability, and experience. Also, that I am a qualified person to translate from Spanish into English, and from English into Spanish.

Executed this 21st day of September, 2006.

My Commission expires on 07/23/2007.

Maria Martha Romero
Notary Public



Junio 17, 06

Hola Lino, te saludo con todo el cariño de siempre, deseando que te encuentres gozando de una muy buena salud, Ma que yo me encuentro bien gracias a Dios, y la verdad que me da mucho gusto poder saber de nuevo de ti, creeme que trate muchas veces de poder comunicarme con tigo, pero no tube suerte, escribi a la bjea direccion de tu hermana y nadie me contesto, tambien le escribi al tano, tampoco me contesto, pero lo bueno es que estas bien y eso me a se sentirme bien, pues te cuento que mario salio en mayo del año pasado, fijate que me echo de cabeza, abla de mas y yo no me he echo cargo de lo que el dijo, la verdad que aquel senor hizo de agua y nos puso en mal, yo Ma abla con mi consul de la pricion y le dije que los no pudiesen quien disparo, fue el que dejaron hir, pero el medico que Ma lo pueden traer para este creeme que yo estoy muy enojado con aquel, nos metio en este problema, y luego le seguimos el juego en no agarrar los y 5 años que nos devan, ahora solo nos queda comprobarle a la tabla que se equivocaron en dejar hir a mario, y me gustaria que si tienes la prueba de la huella del gatillo, me gustaria que me la mandaras, por que esa prueba note la pueden negar por que fijate que yo acaba de hir a la tabla y me dijeron un puño de cesar que yo ni encuentro, aser que me dijeron que mario avia dicho todo eso y yo name hice cargo de lo que mario dijo que tanta la confusion de la tabla que nose pucieron de acuerdo y tubieron que perponerlo por lo que dijo mario, pero yo pienso que vos tienes chansa de esta demandar al gobierno, por que n estan acusando de algo que Ma pucieron en peligro tu vida y que no es cierto de la acusacion, espero que no estes con los

EXHIBIT E

1 directly to the District Attorney's office, and then
2 the District Attorney, at that point, can verify that
3 what they're saying in those letters are, in fact,
4 correct, and then we'll bring that up into the Board.
5 The only information that we are going to go by is
6 what's in the record at this point. Yes, sir?

7 **INMATE PORTILLO:** Excuse me a minute. What
8 District Attorney are you --

9 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER BIGGERS:** The District
10 Attorney from LA County.

11 **INMATE PORTILLO:** By the way, my sister, my
12 (inaudible) send a copy of this letter to the District
13 Attorneys.

14 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER BIGGERS:** That's fine.
15 But we, as the Board of Prison Terms, do not accept
16 anything that has to do with your trial that is not
17 coming down from the District Attorney's office and
18 also from the court of appeals.

19 **ATTORNEY JUDD:** I believe the District Attorney
20 got --

21 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER BIGGERS:** Do you have a
22 copy of that letter, Mr. Smith?

23 **DEPUTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY SMITH:** It's not in my
24 immediate file that I have for the Board. It could be
25 somewhere else, but I don't see it initially, but if
26 it's a letter from the inmate's family or anyone else,
27 I can assure you that we probably would not consider it

1 because the police reports that were confessions by
2 both of his associates saying that he's the one that
3 did the shooting. We have a confession from him to the
4 police saying that he did the shooting. We have two
5 eyewitnesses that said he did the shooting. Any
6 written statements from somebody years later trying to
7 help the inmate based upon statements that are not
8 corroborated, we wouldn't accept. The record stands
9 for itself, and it's 100 percent accurate. The inmate
10 did the shooting, and his codefendants said he did the
11 shooting, and we have two eyewitnesses.

12 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER BIGGERS:** All right. I
13 understand that, Mr. Smith. But supposedly, now, these
14 two letters are from the codefendants, and that's why I
15 said they need to go to the District Attorney's office
16 and they have to collaborate?

17 **ATTORNEY JUDD:** As you hear, they're not going
18 to accept them. There is no procedure, I suppose, for
19 these letters to get to the Board and to be considered.

20 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER BIGGERS:** Well --

21 **ATTORNEY JUDD:** For what they're worth.

22 **PRESIDING COMMISSIONER BIGGERS:** Well, he can
23 send them to the DA's office. What he's saying right
24 now is if they're from family members, you know, that
25 there's a process. I would send them to the DA's
26 office and let them decide. Let them respond back to
27 you. We are going to stand on the record.

JS44

(Rev. 07/89)

CIVIL COVER SHEET

The JS-44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket sheet. (SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON THE SECOND PAGE OF THIS FORM)

I (a) PLAINTIFFS

Juan Portillo

Victor M. Alcala
CLERK, U.S. DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
DEPUTY

(b) COUNTY OF RESIDENCE OF FIRST LISTED PLAINTIFF Imperial
(EXCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES)

2008-1983
FILING FEE PAID
Yes No
HPP MOTION FILED
Yes No
COPIES SENT TO
Court No Procs

COUNTY OF RESIDENCE OF FIRST LISTED DEFENDANT
(EXCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES ONLY)

IN REM AND CONDEMNATION CASES, USE THE LOCATION OF THE TRACT OF LAND

(c) ATTORNEYS (FIRM NAME, ADDRESS, AND TELEPHONE NUMBER)

Juan Portillo
PO Box 931
Imperial, CA 92251
H-80425

ATTORNEYS (IF KNOWN)

'08 CV 0706 LAB JMA

II. BASIS OF JURISDICTION (PLACE AN X IN ONE BOX ONLY)

- ☐ 1 U.S. Government Plaintiff
☐ 2 U.S. Government Defendant
☒ 3 Federal Question
(U.S. Government Not a Party)
☐ 4 Diversity (Indicate Citizenship of Parties in Item III)

III. CITIZENSHIP OF PRINCIPAL PARTIES (PLACE AN X IN ONE BOX FOR PLAINTIFF AND ONE BOX FOR DEFENDANT)

- | | PT | DEF | | PT | DEF |
|---|----------------------------|----------------------------|---|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Citizen of This State | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 | Incorporated or Principal Place of Business in This State | <input type="checkbox"/> 4 | <input type="checkbox"/> 4 |
| Citizen of Another State | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 | Incorporated and Principal Place of Business in Another State | <input type="checkbox"/> 5 | <input type="checkbox"/> 5 |
| Citizen or Subject of a Foreign Country | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 | Foreign Nation | <input type="checkbox"/> 6 | <input type="checkbox"/> 6 |

IV. CAUSE OF ACTION (CITE THE US CIVIL STATUTE UNDER WHICH YOU ARE FILING AND WRITE A BRIEF STATEMENT OF CAUSE. DO NOT CITE JURISDICTIONAL STATUTES UNLESS DIVERSITY).

28 U.S.C. 2254

V. NATURE OF SUIT (PLACE AN X IN ONE BOX ONLY)

CONTRACT	TORTS		FORFEITURE/PENALTY	BANKRUPTCY	OTHER STATUTES
<input type="checkbox"/> 110 Insurance <input type="checkbox"/> Marine <input type="checkbox"/> Miller Act <input type="checkbox"/> Negotiable Instrument <input type="checkbox"/> 150 Recovery of Overpayment & Enforcement of Judgment <input type="checkbox"/> 151 Medicare Act <input type="checkbox"/> 152 Recovery of Defaulted Student Loans (Excl. Veterans) <input type="checkbox"/> 153 Recovery of Overpayment of Veterans Benefits <input type="checkbox"/> 160 Stockholders Suits <input type="checkbox"/> Other Contract <input type="checkbox"/> 195 Contract Product Liability	PERSONAL INJURY <input type="checkbox"/> 310 Airplane <input type="checkbox"/> 315 Airplane Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 320 Assault, Libel & Slander <input type="checkbox"/> 330 Federal Employers' Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 340 Marine <input type="checkbox"/> 345 Marine Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 350 Motor Vehicle <input type="checkbox"/> 355 Motor Vehicle Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 360 Other Personal Injury	PERSONAL INJURY <input type="checkbox"/> 362 Personal Injury-Medical Malpractice <input type="checkbox"/> 365 Personal Injury - Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 368 Asbestos Personal Injury Product Liability PERSONAL PROPERTY <input type="checkbox"/> 370 Other Fraud <input type="checkbox"/> 371 Truth in Lending <input type="checkbox"/> 380 Other Personal Property Damage <input type="checkbox"/> 385 Property Damage Product Liability	<input type="checkbox"/> 610 Agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> 620 Other Food & Drug <input type="checkbox"/> 625 Drug Related Seizure of Property 21 USC 881 <input type="checkbox"/> 630 Liquor Laws <input type="checkbox"/> 640 RR & Truck <input type="checkbox"/> 650 Airline Regs <input type="checkbox"/> 660 Occupational Safety/Health <input type="checkbox"/> 690 Other LABOR <input type="checkbox"/> 710 Fair Labor Standards Act <input type="checkbox"/> 720 Labor/Mgmt. Relations <input type="checkbox"/> 730 Labor/Mgmt. Reporting & Disclosure Act <input type="checkbox"/> 740 Railway Labor Act <input type="checkbox"/> 790 Other Labor Litigation <input type="checkbox"/> 791 Empl. Ret. Inc. <input type="checkbox"/> Security Act	<input type="checkbox"/> 422 Appeal 28 USC 158 <input type="checkbox"/> 423 Withdrawal 28 USC 157 PROPERTY RIGHTS <input type="checkbox"/> 820 Copyrights <input type="checkbox"/> 830 Patent <input type="checkbox"/> 840 Trademark SOCIAL SECURITY <input type="checkbox"/> 861 HIA (13958) <input type="checkbox"/> 862 Black Lung (923) <input type="checkbox"/> 863 DIWC/DIWW (405(g)) <input type="checkbox"/> 864 SSID Title XVI <input type="checkbox"/> 865 RSI (405(g)) FEDERAL TAX SUITS <input type="checkbox"/> 870 Taxes (U.S. Plaintiff or Defendant) <input type="checkbox"/> 871 IRS - Third Party 26 USC 7609	<input type="checkbox"/> 400 State Reappointment <input type="checkbox"/> 410 Antitrust <input type="checkbox"/> 430 Banks and Banking <input type="checkbox"/> 450 Commerce/ICC Rates/etc. <input type="checkbox"/> 460 Deportation <input type="checkbox"/> 470 Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations <input type="checkbox"/> 810 Selective Service <input type="checkbox"/> 850 Securities/Commodities Exchange <input type="checkbox"/> 875 Customer Challenge 12 USC <input type="checkbox"/> 891 Agricultural Acts <input type="checkbox"/> 892 Economic Stabilization Act <input type="checkbox"/> 893 Environmental Matters <input type="checkbox"/> 894 Energy Allocation Act <input type="checkbox"/> 895 Freedom of Information Act <input type="checkbox"/> 900 Appeal of Fee Determination Under Equal Access to Justice <input type="checkbox"/> 950 Constitutionality of State <input type="checkbox"/> 890 Other Statutory Actions
REAL PROPERTY <input type="checkbox"/> 210 Land Condemnation <input type="checkbox"/> 220 Foreclosure <input type="checkbox"/> 230 Rent Lease & Ejectment <input type="checkbox"/> 240 Tort to Land <input type="checkbox"/> 245 Tort Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 290 All Other Real Property	CIVIL RIGHTS <input type="checkbox"/> 441 Voting <input type="checkbox"/> 442 Employment <input type="checkbox"/> 443 Housing/Accommodations <input type="checkbox"/> 444 Welfare <input type="checkbox"/> 440 Other Civil Rights	PRISONER PETITIONS <input type="checkbox"/> 510 Motions to Vacate Sentence Habeas Corpus <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 530 General <input type="checkbox"/> 535 Death Penalty <input type="checkbox"/> 540 Mandamus & Other <input type="checkbox"/> 550 Civil Rights			

VI. ORIGIN (PLACE AN X IN ONE BOX ONLY)

- ☒ 1 Original Proceeding
☐ 2 Removal from State Court
☐ 3 Remanded from Appellate Court
☐ 4 Reinstated or Reopened
☐ 5 Transferred from another district (specify)
☐ 6 Multidistrict Litigation
☐ 7 Appeal to District Judge from Magistrate Judgment

VII. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT:

☐ CHECK IF THIS IS A CLASS ACTION UNDER f.r.c.p. 23

DEMAND \$

Check YES only if demanded in complaint:

JURY DEMAND: ☐ YES ☐ NO

VIII. RELATED CASE(S) IF ANY (See Instructions): JUDGE

Docket Number

DATE 4/16/2008

SIGNATURE OF ATTORNEY OF RECORD

CR 149953 MS 4/18 \$5

Rmelle

**UNITED STATES
DISTRICT COURT**
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
SAN DIEGO DIVISION

149953 - MS

**April 18, 2008
09:34:12**

Habeas Corpus

USAO #: 08CV0706 -LAB

Judge.: LARRY A BURNS

Amount.: \$5.00 MO

Check#: 189-069241

Total-> \$5.00

FROM: JUAN PORTILLO
VS. VOCTOR M. ALMAGE, WARDEN